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[redacted] 30 December 1967

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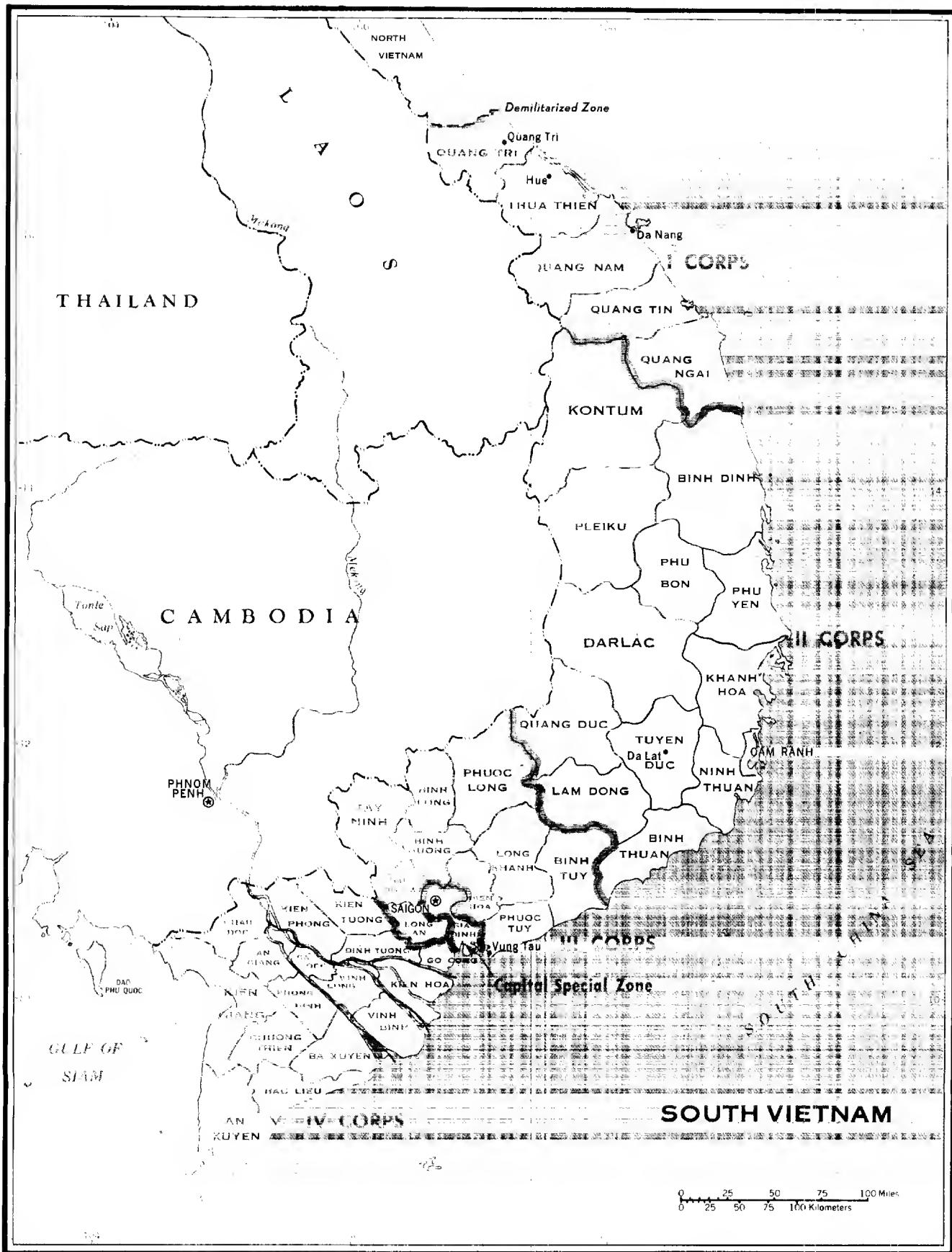
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*South Vietnam: Action by the Upper House of the National Assembly appears to clear the way for the implementation of the government's partial mobilization decree.

Despite its objections to the law, which is scheduled for implementation on 1 January, the Upper House passed a resolution which merely urged the government to clarify certain provisions and to delay as long as possible the drafting of men under 20. Although the Lower House may yet attempt to modify the law when it reconvenes early next month, no changes are likely before the call-up is scheduled to begin.

Major military action prior to the New Year ceasefire was largely confined to the northern coastal area. Over 90 enemy were reported killed in four separate engagements in Quang Tri and Quang Nam provinces on 27 and 28 December. In one of these actions, 48 US Marines were killed.

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Greece: [King Constantine's return to Athens at an early date remains doubtful.]

[There are no firm indications that the King plans an immediate return or that the junta wants this.]

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[Junta extremists apparently oppose the King's return at this time. The possibility remains, however, that the King will act on his own initiative.]

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Cyprus: The Turkish Cypriot proclamation yesterday on communal administration has renewed tensions between the two Cypriot communities.

An 11-man provisional council has been formed to administer the affairs of the Turkish Cypriot community. Since the outbreak of fighting in December 1963, the Turkish Cypriots have handled their own problems and have not participated in official government bodies. The new move probably was prompted by Ankara.

Although both the Turkish Cypriots and Ankara will play down the significance of the action, the Greek Cypriots will insist that it is an attempt to establish separate Turkish Cypriot autonomy. President Makarios has branded the proclamation "devoid of any legal effect" and contrary to UN resolutions and efforts.

The Turkish Cypriot action points up the community's resistance to domination by the Greek Cypriots. It will be an additional obstacle in the way of new "normalization" moves which Makarios reportedly plans to draw the Turkish Cypriot community out of its enclaves.

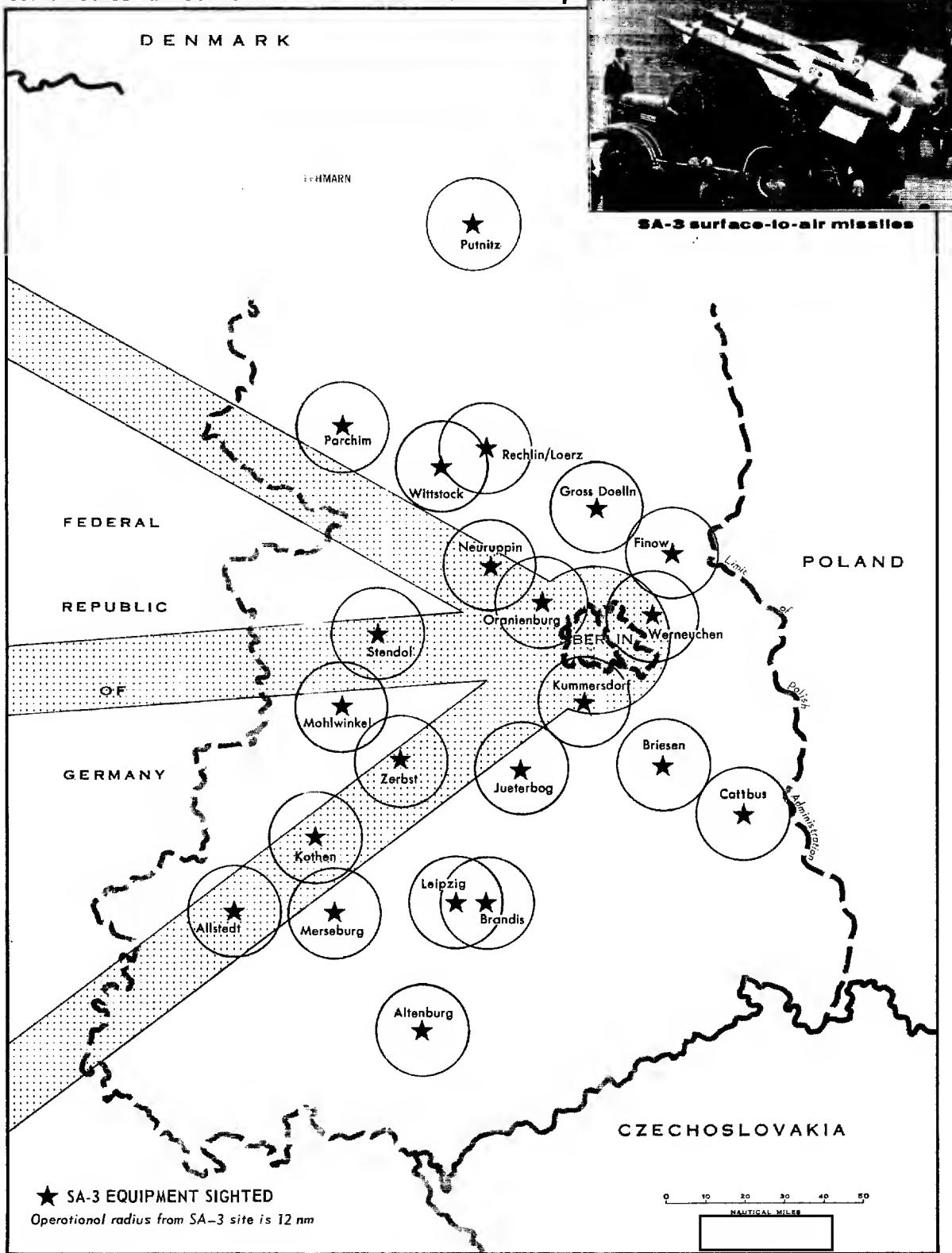
The appointment of Rauf Denktash as vice chairman of the council is particularly difficult for the Greek Cypriots to accept. Denktash, long an advocate of separate Turkish Cypriot authority, was apprehended recently by the Greek Cypriots when he tried to enter Cyprus clandestinely from Turkey, where he has lived since early 1964. Denktash was later permitted to return to Turkey, but his venture contributed to the tension leading up to the November crisis.

(continued)

The withdrawal of the Greek troops is another possible source of trouble. The actual number of Greek "illegals" remaining is not clear, although Athens has appeared to be upholding its commitment. A dispute could arise over the number of Greek troops Ankara claims are on the island and the number which Athens may be prepared to admit are there. About 3,200 troops have left the island so far.

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SA-3 Sites at Soviet Airfields in East Germany



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USSR - East Germany: The Soviets have begun to install equipment in the SA-3 surface-to-air missile sites under construction in East Germany since last spring.

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More than 100 SA-3 sites have been identified in the USSR since deployment began there in 1961. The system probably will be deployed with Soviet forces in Poland and Hungary, and East European armed forces may also receive it.

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Dominican Republic: There are rumors that some move may be made against the Balaguer government over the weekend.

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Recent inflammatory radio-broadcasts by opposition party leaders and the mysterious disappearance of exiled former "constitutionalist" leader Colonel Caamano have added to the uneasy political atmosphere.

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